

Potted and Balled & Burlap Coniferous Trees

Planting Site

- Clear any debris (stumps, rocks, etc.) from planting site
- Avoid planting in wet depressions
- If you are unsure of buried utilities, call before you dig – Ontario One call 1-800-400-2255 or www.on1call.com
- Where NOT to plant:
 - Under utility wires (plant at least 5 m/16 ft away)
 - Within a road allowance
 - Over septic system
 - Under crown of a live tree
 - Close to buildings
 - Near field tiles or drain outlets
 - Follow municipal setbacks from drains

Planting

- Lift the tree by the pot or under the root ball, do not lift it by the trunk
- Before planting, ensure soil within pot or burlap is moist
- Dig planting hole 30 cm (12 in) wider in diameter than the root ball
- Dig hole just deep enough that the soil in the pot or root ball is level with the ground and the tree sits on a firm base
- Lower potted/balled and burlap tree into hole, checking for depth and fit
- Potted trees: Remove tree from hole, slide off the pot (disturbing the root system as little as possible) and put tree back in hole
- Balled and burlap trees: Place tree in hole with burlap intact, then carefully cut twine away from trunk, untie the burlap and fold back (burlap will decompose)
- Ensure tree is vertical
- Firm tree in with a mixture of topsoil and compost to eliminate air pockets

Mulching & Weed Control

- Mulch with composted hardwood chips to a depth of 5-10 cm (2-4 in) to reduce weed competition, retain moisture and reduce fluctuations in soil temperature
- Spread the mulch in a circle around the tree, keeping it away from the trunk to avoid stem rot
- Do not use string grass/weed trimmers around any trees, regardless of size

Watering

- Ensure trees are thoroughly watered at planting
- In times of drought, water thoroughly once a week

